

In the Claims:

The claims are as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~rejecting a component~~ rejecting at least a component during a placement cycle, ~~the steps~~ comprising steps:

a) providing a component placement machine including a housing adapted for movement along an X and a Y axis above a printed circuit board and having a frame rotatably attached thereto, said frame having a plurality of pick/place heads disposed thereupon;

b) providing a vision system, including at least one camera contiguous with said housing;

c) providing a reject station contiguous with said housing and adapted to receive said component;

d) picking said component from a supply of components using at least one of said plurality of pick/place heads;

e) capturing at least one image of said picked component, and processing said captured image to determine whether said picked component is a placeable component or a non-placeable component;

f) placing said placeable component onto said printed circuit board at a predetermined location; and

~~g) rejecting said non-placeable component into said reject station; and,~~
~~wherein repeating steps d to f for another component, wherein~~ wherein said rejecting step (g) is accomplished substantially completely during at least one of said repeated picking step

(d), said repeated capturing step (e), and said repeated placing step (f) of said another component by another pick/place head of said plurality of pick/place heads.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method for ~~rejecting a component~~ rejecting at least a component during a placement cycle as recited in claim 1, wherein said rejecting step (g) comprises means for releasing said non-placeable component from at least one of a plurality of said pick/place heads such that the said non-placeable component is deposited into said reject station.

4-6. (Cancelled)